

CITY OF LAS VEGAS DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

BLOCK *by* BLOCK

..... *MAKING GREAT THINGS HAPPEN*



National Neighborhood Day Celebration page 4

ALSO INSIDE:

Las Vegas Takes Steps To Preserve Affordable Housing

Seniors With A Say... Senior Citizens Advisory Board

Las Vegas City Council Approves Twenty-Two Grass-Roots Neighborhood Improvement Projects



FALL 2006

SILVER SKY ADDS 90 UNITS OF AFFORDABLE SENIOR LIVING



Silver Sky Assisted Living Facility at 8220 Silver Sky Drive in Ward 2 adds 90 units of affordable assisted living for seniors, age 62 and over. The grand opening for Silver Sky was held August 29. The first facility of its kind in Nevada offers one bedroom and two bedroom unit kitchenettes. Amenities for residents include activities such as a computer lab, beauty salon, game room, healing garden and multiple walking paths, rest area and community spaces. Silver Sky was funded in part by the city of Las Vegas and the Nevada Housing Division, which allocated nearly \$2 million in funding to the project. Seniors must income-qualify to live at Silver Sky.



LAS VEGAS TAKES STEPS TO PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

With the median price of a new home costing more than \$300,000, the issue of affordable housing is an issue of great concern. To put this into perspective, a new school teacher earns an annual salary of \$32,600, which qualifies them for a home costing \$108,800. Many other working-class professionals, including nurses, carpenters and administrative assistants, cannot afford to participate in our housing market.

The Las Vegas City Council gave unanimous approval in September for a proposal to move forward with a community land trust as a way to preserve affordable housing.

A Community Land Trust (CLT) preserves decent, affordable housing in perpetuity by selling homes to income-qualifying residents while holding long-term (99 year) leases on

properties where the homes are located. Upon the sale of the home at an affordable price, the resident lessee receives a portion of the equity and the CLT receives the remainder. The income from the lease is put back into the CLT for operations and acquisition of future properties.



City of Las Vegas
**COMMUNITY
LAND TRUST**
Program



(Board members left to right) Mel Henkin (Ward 6), Hazel Geran (Ward 5), Harry Furey (Ward 4), Chair, Bob Goldstein (Ward 1), Vice Chair, Lance Moran (Ward 4), Betty Evans (Ward 2), Jerry Kosbab (Ward 3) and not shown Rudy Durso (Ward 5).

SENIORS WITH A SAY...

Senior Citizens Advisory Board

When the mayor and City Council make decisions that impact Las Vegas seniors, they have a panel of experts to consult.

Seniors face challenges that require the kind of insight the Senior Citizens Advisory Board brings. The board's eight members, all seniors themselves, have consulted on or initiated a variety of projects that benefited the senior community and have partnered with Neighborhood Services to improve the quality of life for city residents in their golden years.

The board supported the Downtown Senior Services Center (DSSC), a facility in Ward 3 that gives seniors access to a health clinic, a food pantry and senior legal services. They plan to bring additional services to the center that will fit the needs of our city's growing senior population. Educational outreach, developing partnerships with local agencies and non-profits, and providing opportunities for service and involvement that will improve their quality of life are also on the board's agenda. Important issues for seniors, such as identity theft prevention, pre-retirement seminars and dealing with Medicare and Social Security are just a few of the seminars the board has helped to organize. The board also works to ensure seniors are aware of programs that will benefit them such as the energy assistance program.

The Senior Citizens Advisory Board meets once a month on the second Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the DSSC. Meetings are open to the public.

LAS VEGAS NEIGHBORHOODS ARE ORGANIZING TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY LIVABILITY

Las Vegas neighborhoods are taking advantage of city services by organizing neighborhood associations. Currently, the city has 180 active neighborhood associations registered. Neighborhood cleanups are one of the benefits of organizing and are growing in popularity as a way to improve the look and safety of communities. Residents can also access city resources such as grant funding, access to planning professionals and free educational programs on community issues. Visit www.lasvegasnevada.gov to see what services are available or call 229-2330.

HOME SAFETY TIP

Three easy ways to improve your home safety

1. Keep shrubs and bushes trimmed to eliminate hiding places for potential burglars.
2. Ensure outside lighting is adequate and functioning.
3. Limit visibility to your home interior through windows. In the garage, keep contents covered.

Las Vegas City Council

Mayor Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese • Ward 3
Councilman Larry Brown • Ward 4
Councilman Lawrence Weekly • Ward 5
Councilman Steve Wolfson • Ward 2
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian • Ward 1
Councilman Steven D. Ross • Ward 6

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Mayor and City Council Offices, City Manager's Office, Leisure Services, Detention & Enforcement, Office of Business and Development



NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD DAY

Thousands of residents came out for several events across the city to mark National Neighborhood Day, a nationwide effort that received the commitment of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, to build and sustain neighborhood relationships and create stronger, more caring and effective communities. More than 150 community leaders and volunteers attended the kick-off at City Hall for National Neighborhood Day. The volunteers were thanked for all their work toward making Las Vegas a stronger community. The city's Neighborhood Services Department unveiled its new neighborhood porch, a mobile trailer that will offer neighborhood associations a staging area and platform for community projects.



Ward 1 Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian

A thank you celebration was held for Ward 1 neighborhood associations at the Howard Lieburn Community Senior Center.



Ward 3 Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese

The Action "N" Neighborhoods community celebration gave East Las Vegas residents the opportunity to participate in special safety and gang prevention training, enjoyed free refreshments, and learned about after school recreational/sporting activities.

Ward 2 Councilman Steve Wolfson

Councilman Steve Wolfson enjoys celebration of National Neighborhood Day at the All-American Sports Park.



Ward 3 Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese

Residents enjoyed food and refreshments, family fun and activities, including a bike rodeo, cake walk and the library district's Web on Wheels at a National Neighborhood Day event at Freedom Park.



Ward 6 Councilman Steven D. Ross

Families celebrate National Neighborhood Day at Children's Memorial Park.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Annual National Crime And Drug Prevention Event Brings Out Community

The Las Vegas City Council members, city of Las Vegas and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department joined with the community for National Night Out in August. National Night Out is a nationwide effort to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support for local anti-crime programs and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

Representatives from local law enforcement agencies, including the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Las Vegas city marshals, as well as various departments of the city of Las Vegas, answered questions and gave helpful information.



Take Back Your Park on National Night Out

Councilman Steve Wolfson hosted "take back your park" on National Night Out in August at AnSan Park. Ward 2 residents met with city marshals and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (city marshals respond to calls for service in the city-owned parks while Metro responds to calls in the neighborhoods and at privately-owned parks).

Leisure Services park ambassadors greeted Ward 2 residents, served cupcakes and described the benefits of the volunteering as park ambassadors. The park ambassador program is open to seniors who can visit a park regularly and report monthly on conditions at the park. They also greet park visitors to foster a friendly atmosphere in the park.

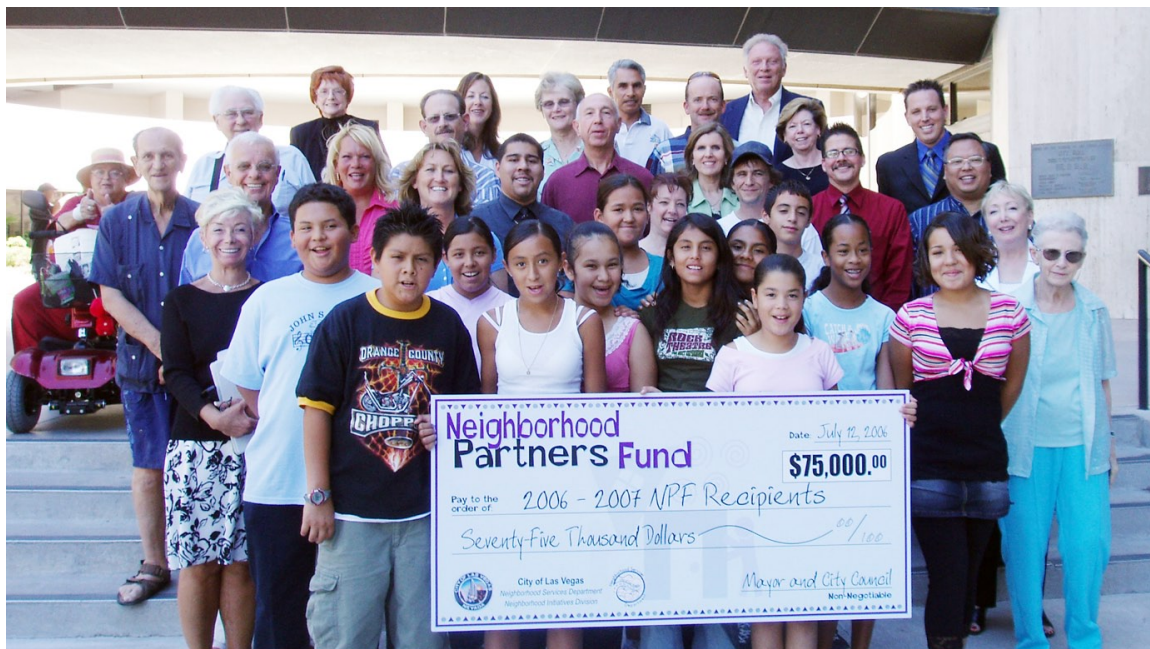


LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL APPROVES TWENTY-TWO GRASS-ROOTS NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

In July, the Las Vegas City Council gave unanimous approval to provide \$75,000 in Neighborhood Partners Fund grants for 22 community improvement projects across the city. The recipients are residents who will provide more than \$275,000 in matching labor and donations to improve their neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Partners Fund grants serve as an incentive to get residents to take stake in their neighborhoods. The city provides the seed money for neighborhood improvement projects and the residents provide matching labor or donations. Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and the City Council thanked the residents for their work at the Council meeting.

"Since 1998, the Neighborhood Partners Fund, organized through the city's Neighborhood Services Department, has funded 171 neighborhood projects. These projects have generated close to \$1.75 million worth of matching volunteer labor or donations. The twenty-two projects were approved this year including:



1. **Artesian Heights** - beautification project.
2. **Charleston Heights - Neighborhood Preservation Area Seven** communication enhancement project.
3. **Gateway District/Stupak Center**- back-to-school fair.
4. **Quail Estates West** - neighborhood beautification project.
5. **Rancho Bel Air** - safety and beautification project.
6. **Sartini Plaza Resident Council** - facility enhancement project.
7. **Aventura Association** - gateway project.
8. **Capri at Summerlin** - neighborhood safety project.
9. **Lakes Association** - 2006 Lakes Festival of Lights.
10. **Peccole Ranch Association** - Pump N' 5K Run.
11. **Archie Grant Association** - laundry room for senior and disabled individuals.
12. **John S. Park Association** - community project.
13. **Rulon Earl Mobile Manor** - security for seniors.
14. **American West Village II** - beautification, enhancement, and water conservation project.
15. **Desert Shores Community Association** - beautification of neighborhood entrances.
16. **Berkley Square** - beautification and safety project.
17. **Cultural Corridor Coalition** - educational and cultural enrichment project.
18. **Levy Gardens Resident Council** - communications and community building project.
19. **Orleans Square Association** - landscape improvement project.
20. **Grand Entries** - entrance repair and beautification project.
21. **The Preserve at Elkhorn** - communications and beautification project.
22. **Romano Ridge** - gate replacement.

The Neighborhood Partners Fund matches up to \$5,000 in funding to improve the quality of life in Las Vegas neighborhoods.

NEIGHBORHOODS *in action*



Polly Gonzalez Memorial Park

Residents joined Ward 6 Councilman Steven D. Ross for the grand opening of the Polly Gonzalez Memorial Park on Thursday, August 17. The park is located at the northwest corner of El Campo Grande and Bradley Road in the Centennial Hills community.

The park, named in memory of KLAS Channel 8 Anchor Polly Gonzalez, is a five-acre passive-park adjacent to Kay Carl Elementary School. A memorial garden and tile mural project in memory of Gonzalez will be completed in the coming months, with a dedication to be held in March 2007.

Along with the park dedication, the event also featured a back-to-school fair. School supplies and binders were available to the first 500 school-age children.



Sartini Plaza Resident Council

Sartini Plaza Resident Council leaders join Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian at National Neighborhood Day launch.



I.C.A.N.N.

On September 23, the Southern Nevada Community Gang Task Force and Gang Prevention Subcommittee held their first "Initiating

Community Action 'N' Neighborhoods" (I.C.A.N.N.) Community Celebration at the East Las Vegas Community/Senior Center. This

was a joint partnership between Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese, the city of Las Vegas Neighborhood Services Department, the Boys and Girls Club of Las Vegas, 10,000 KIDS, Nevada Youth Alliance, Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, "Z" Squared and Best Coalition of Southern Nevada. More than 400 residents attended the event and received valuable information from local agencies about community support programs for youth and families.

Training classes were held for parents to teach early intervention of gang involvement. Training classes were held for youth to teach peer mediation and anti-violence and anti-abduction techniques. Special entertainment was provided by Gatekeepers from KA at the MGM Grand Hotel; Rope Master, James B. Thompson and 16 Candles, who presented a live drama about the consequences of youth gang involvement.



Back To School Fair and Movie in the Park

Councilman Steve Wolfson hosted a back-to-school fair and movie in the park on August 11 at AnSan Park. Councilman Wolfson handed out free backpacks and school supplies to school-aged children in Ward 2. Children and their parents enjoyed carnival games, face painting and trivia while waiting for sundown. Families gathered on the lawn at sundown to eat popcorn and watch "The Shaggy Dog." Fun was had by all.



Look Out Kids About

Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian commits to school safety initiative Look Out Kids About.



First Tuesday

Rancho Sereno Neighborhood Association members at First Tuesday with Sheriff Young.



Ward 5 Back-to-School Fair

Councilman Lawrence Weekly is joined by Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and Councilman Ross to kick off his back-to-school event.

NEIGHBORHOODS *in* action



Ward 6 Back To School Fair/Movie In The Park

Councilman Steven D. Ross hosted a back to school event in Centennial Hills Park along with a movie.



Boy Scout Troop 390 Discussion

Troop 390 learn about city government from Councilman Ross.

Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese Ward 3 Back-to-School Fair

Stupak Community Center utilized a \$5,000 Neighborhood Partners Grant to pay for 800 backpacks for the annual back-to-school fair held at Stupak Park in August. Stratosphere/Arizona Charlies Corp and Nextel donated all of the school supplies used to fill the backpacks. K-mart supplied the backpacks at a discount. Senior citizen volunteers from Dula Gym and Teen volunteers from the Stupak Center worked together to fill the bags. Approximately 1,000 people were in attendance at the fair and 700 backpacks were handed out to local kids.



TWENTY-THREE LAS VEGAS YOUTH GRADUATED FROM PROGRAM THAT PREPARES THEM FOR EMPLOYMENT IN COMPETITIVE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

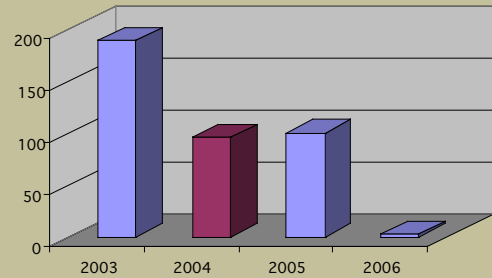
Twenty-three proud teenagers walked to the front of the room to collect their certificate of achievement, hearty congratulations and applause for six weeks worth of work in the Batteries Included Get Charged Workshops, followed by a summer internship at the city. Batteries Included is a city of Las Vegas youth program designed to address declining graduation rates and give participants the skills they need to compete in a competitive, global marketplace. The workshops gave the students practical preparation for the workplace, the internships gave them first-hand experience.

The workshops were a collaborative effort between the city, the Clark County School District and Nevada Partners. In March, more than 130 students signed up for the program. Twenty-three students were offered internships with the city as part of the Get Charged summer employment program. The students worked with the city's Leisure and Neighborhood Services departments on jobs including: elementary school camp assistants, locker attendants, customer service representatives and office assistants.

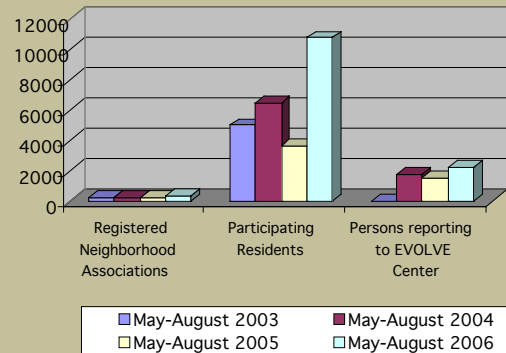
The Batteries Included program will continue to offer programs to improve high school and college graduation rates while cultivating professional young leaders in our community. There are seven components of the program: education and after-school awareness, incorporating education into after-school programs, youth engagement, city/public partnerships, celebrating youth achievement, youth career development, and re-engaging youth. The program slogan is, "Born with the power to change the world."

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

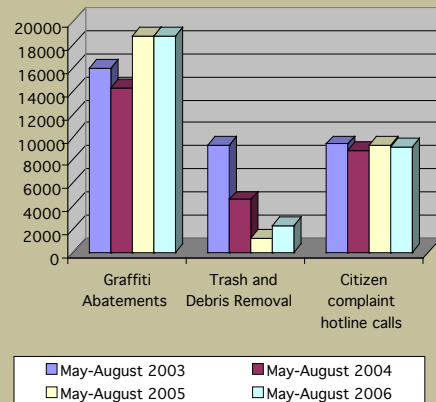
Newly Constructed Affordable Housing Units



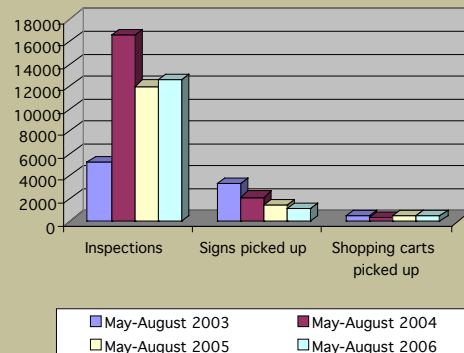
Neighborhood Initiatives Selected Activit



Neighborhood Response Performance Measurements



Neighborhood Response Performance Measurements



Hispanic Heritage Month

As part of a celebration marking September as Hispanic Heritage Month, the Rancho High School Mariachi Band performed before the City Council meeting in the plaza area of City Hall. Hispanic Heritage Month is a month-long celebration that recognizes the many contributions of Latinos in the United States and here in Las Vegas.



Carlos Valensuelo, a senior at Rancho High School, joined the Mariachi Oro De Rancho band at his school right after he heard them play one night. When he graduates he would like to go pro with his Mariachi skills and he would like to become a lawyer.

IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH

Three easy ways to add physical activity to your routine to improve your health

1. Climb stairs instead of escalators or elevators.
2. Walk your dog or toss a ball with a friend.
3. Stretch you muscles.

Anything that moves your limbs helps fitness and is a stress buster.

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Program Aids Contractors

The Nevada State Contractors Board Business Assistance Program, established to provide guidance with the license application process, is now accepting reservations for upcoming workshops. These instructional workshops are conducted monthly at the board's offices in Southern Nevada, 2310 Corporate Circle, Suite 200, Henderson; and bimonthly in Northern Nevada, 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 100, Reno.

Applicants for a contractor's license receive information to complete the application process quickly and accurately.

If requested, staff will review applications before submitting them for approval. Information in locating source documents for the application is also provided, as well as a checklist of state and local agencies and other resources.

The NSCB encourages applicants to take this free Business Assistance Program. Many who have attended the program said it was very helpful in their application process. The State of Nevada requires that all contractors be licensed, including plumbers, painters, landscapers, electricians, roofers and many more.

For information on available workshop dates, contact Lisa Bedsole, licensing consultant, at: (702) 486-1100, extension 1120; or (775) 688-1141, extension 1120 or by e-mail at: lbedsole@nscb.state.nv.us.

10 Tips for Making Sure Your Contractor Is on the Level

1. Hire only licensed contractors.
2. Check the contractor's license number by calling the Nevada State Contractors Board at (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada, or at: www.nscb.state.nv.us
3. Get three references and review past work.
4. Get at least three bids.
5. Get a written contract and do not sign anything until you completely understand the terms.
6. For pool contracts, pay only 10 percent down or \$1,000 - whichever is less, if a deposit is required.
7. Don't let payments get ahead of the work. Keep a record of all payments.
8. Don't make a final payment until you are satisfied with the job.
9. Don't pay cash.
10. Keep a job file of all papers relating to your project.



City of Las Vegas
Neighborhood Services
400 Stewart Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89101
November 2006 • GA-27663

 neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov

Important Phone Numbers



Mayor's Office..... 229-6241
City Council Office 229-6405
City Manager's Office..... 229-6501
City Attorney..... 229-6201
City Clerk..... 229-6311
Sheriff's Office..... 229-3394
METRO (non-emergency) 795-3111
Emergency 911

Fire Department..... 383-2888
Permits..... 229-6251
Planning & Development..... 229-6301
Leisure Services 229-6297
Neighborhood Services
Department..... 229-2330
Neighborhood
Response Division..... 229-6615

Citizen Hotline..... 229-6615
(graffiti, dangerous abatement, etc)

Neighborhood
Initiatives Division 229-6269
Neighborhood
Development Division 229-2555
EVOLVE Center 638-6371



Back-to-School Events Held Throughout The City



Block by Block Needs Your Input!

Block by block is a quarterly newsletter published by the city of Las Vegas Neighborhood Services Department. All neighborhood associations registered with the city's Neighborhood Partnership Program will receive this newsletter quarterly. To register, please contact Neighborhood Services at (702) 229-2330 or e-mail us at: neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov.

